GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:727
ANSWERED ON:29.02.2000
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL.
ANANT GANGARAM GEETE

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to attract more investment in the Research and Development of Pharmaceutical and knowledge-based industry including its infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to amend the Drug Price Control mechanism;

(d) if so, the decision taken to bring about a uniform maximum price for drugs throughout the country;

(e) whether the Government are considering to set up a special task force to function as a Core House for Research and Development Wing of the Drug Industry;

(f) if so, the details thereof;
(g) whether the All India Organisation of Druggists and Chemists has decided tooppose any move to do away with the drug price control mechanism; and
(h) if so, the measures taken by the Government to meet any such eventually?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS)

(a) to (d) :In March 1999, the Government had set up two committees namely, the Drug Price Control Review Committee, and the Pharmaceutical Research and DevelopmentCommittee. The DPCRC was to review the current drug price control mechanism andto suggest alternative models, if any, with a view to reduce the rigours of price control, where they had become counter productive. The PRDC was to recommend measures tostrengthen the research and development capability of the pharmaceutical industry in the country and to identify the support required by the Indian pharmaceutical companies to undertake domestic R&D. Both these committees have submitted their reports to the Government.

(e) to (h): The Government has also set up a Task Force on Pharmaceuticals and Knowledge-based industries.